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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 (Canceled)

10. (Currentlly Amended) A method of adapting asset delivery within a heterogeneous multimedia video-on-demand distribution system having service provider equipment and at least one set top terminal, comprising the steps of:

   determining at the service provider equipment, for each set top terminal (STT) requesting a session for video content in the multimedia video-on-demand distribution system, a capability level of said STT and a capability level of the distribution network;

   selecting, from a plurality of available video content and navigational assets stored on service provider equipment, video content and navigational assets appropriate to said capability level of said STT; and

   providing said selected video content and navigational assets in response to STT communications Indicative of a need for said video content and assets, wherein said navigational assets comprise video information, graphics information, and control information, and wherein said STT is configured to tune, downconvert, and depacketize said video content and assets.

11. (Previously Added) The method of claim 10, wherein said capability level is defined in terms of at least one of a graphics processing capability, a command processing capability, a video processing capability, an audio processing capability and a bandwidth capability.

12. (Previously Added) The method of claim 10, wherein said assets are stored in an asset data base, each of said stored assets being associated with at least one STT capability level.

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13.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 12, wherein said step of selecting comprises the step of selecting, from said asset data base, an asset having associated with it the capability level of the STT requiring said asset.

14.   (canceled)

15.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein an initial navigation asset provided to a set top terminal comprises associated control information, said control information being indicative of related navigation assets within said asset data base having associated with them a capability level of said STT receiving said initial navigation asset.

16.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 15 wherein said navigation assets comprise applets including said video information, graphic information and control information, said applets being provided to a set top terminal in response to user interaction with control information at said set top terminal indicative of a need for said stored applets.

17.   (Currently Amended) In an interactive multimedia video-on-demand distribution system including video-on-demand provider equipment coupled to subscriber equipment via a communications network, a method for adapting provided information to a set top terminal comprising the steps of:

storing multimedia video-on-demand information at the provider equipment;

determining at the service provider equipment, during a video-on-demand session initiation, a capability level of said STT, said determination being made by comparing STT configuration information to a data base of STT capability information; and

providing, to said STT in response to an STT request for information, information comprising navigator assets adapted to said determined capability level of said STT, wherein said STT tunes, downconverts, and depacketizes said navigation assets; and

each of said set top terminals having a common video information processing architecture, one of a plurality of control architectures, and one of a plurality of graphics processing architectures, wherein said navigator assets are optimized to each of the possible STT capability levels to provide a plurality of respective navigator assets, each of said respective navigator assets having associated with it a respective STT capability level.
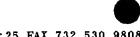
18.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 17 wherein said provided information is optimized, either in real time or before storage, to each of the possible STT capability levels.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 17, wherein said determined capability level of said STT is defined in terms of at least one of a graphics processing capability, a command processing capability, a video processing capability, an audio processing capability, and a bandwidth capability.

21.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said navigation assets include video information, graphics information and control information, said navigation assets being provided by said information provider in response to requests from subscriber equipment.

22.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 21 wherein said navigation assets comprise applets, and said requests comprise leads to said applets stored within said control information of said assets.

23.   (Currently Amended) In a multimedia video-on-demand distribution system including information provider equipment and information subscriber equipment, said information subscriber equipment comprising a plurality of set top terminals (STTs),

each of said STTs providing at least a minimum level of graphics processing capability and a minimum level of image processing capability, information provider apparatus comprising:

a session controller associated with the provider equipment, for interacting with each STT in the multimedia video-on-demand distribution system to responsively provide at least content streams, said provided content streams being adapted to a video processing capability of said STT requesting said provided content stream, said session controller storing, within a data base, information indicative of the video processing capability of said STT. wherein said STT is configured to tune, downconvert, and depacketize said content streams.

24.   (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said session controller causes graphic assets to be provided to said STTs, said provided graphic assets being adapted to said graphics processing capabilities of said STTs, information indicative of said graphics processing capabilities of said STTs being stored in said data base.

25.   (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein each of said STTs has associated with it control capability, said session controller providing control related assets to said STT in accordance with said control capability of said STT, information indicative of a level of control capability associated with each STT being stored in said data base.

26.   (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein each of said STTs has associated with it one of a plurality of predefined control capabilities and predefined graphics processing capabilities, said session controller providing control related assets and graphic assets to each STT in accordance with the control capability and graphics capability of said STT.

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27.   (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said assets comprise navigation assets including video information, graphics information and control information.

28.   (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein an initial navigation asset provided to a STT comprises control information indicative of related navigation assets within said asset data base having associated with them a capability level of said STT receiving said initial navigation asset.

29.   (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said navigation assets comprise applets including said video information, graphic information and control information, said applets being stored on said information provider equipment and being provided to said STT in response to user interaction with control information at said STT indicative of a need for said stored applets.